

Community Center Commission Minutes
Regular Meeting November 16, 2021

8 Simpson Street
Newtown, CT 06470
Meeting Room

Meeting held in person and remotely via Google Meet due to COVID-19 precautions

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE

Present: Matt Ariniello, Kinga Walsh, Nancy Doniger, Fred Taylor, Doria Linnetz,
Jeff Tousignant, Cheyanne Wirtz, Eleanore Cruwys-Hayes and Filippo Formica

Absent: Bill Manfredonia

Meeting was called to order at 6:34pm by Kinga Walsh.

Salute to the Flag

Public comment

Approval of Minutes from 10/19/21 Meeting

Jeff Tousignant made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2021 meeting. Fred Taylor seconded . All in favor and motion passes.

Financials:

Mr. Ariniello reported Membership earned \$58,285. The Center saw \$99,809 in total expenses. Total revenue earned last month is \$162,964 including a \$25,000 grant from the State Department of Education. The After School Program has consistently been bringing in ~\$3,000-\$4,000/week with ~130 students/week. The Center is currently at \$246,000 revenue over expenditures.

Director's Report

General Update

Mr. Ariniello reported membership continues to increase this month with 123 memberships with the largest increase in Senior category. Mr. Ariniello will be implementing two additional handicap parking spaces in the parking lot given the extra need. These two new parking spaces will be deemed flexible spaces used within the hours of 8a-12p. He also mentioned possible handicap buttons in the locker rooms and is waiting for estimates. He shared with the Commission there is a donation of handicap rails for the locker rooms as well. There are 210 students are registered for Fall Programs. Swim lessons have about 10-12 families on a waitlist due to a shortage of swim instructors. Interviews for a replacement Aquatics Director should begin late this week. Mr. Ariniello expressed his concern regarding the search for these positions. Mr. Ariniello thanked Ms. Robelo for her dedication to the Center over the course of the grand opening and through the Pandemic. Ms. Robelo will be missed. Mr. Ariniello also thanked Justin for his continued help with The Center as well. Justin will be leaving The Center to further his education and Mr. Ariniello thanked him for his time at The Center. The Halloween Drive Thru was held one night only on Friday due to the heavy wind and rain predicted for that Saturday. The Center held a multigenerational Halloween Parade combined with the Senior Center. Teen programming has been picking up. Kids cooking classes have been showing great participation totaling 36 children in culinary classes. Mr. Ariniello is considering opening one lane for Drop-In Lap Swim in the New Year. Sadly, Mr. Ariniello reported there was vandalism in the outdoor bathrooms as well as the indoor Mens bathroom.

Upcoming events are as follows: The Sip & Shop event will be on Friday, December 3rd from 6:30-9:30. The Annual Light Show during December 10th-12th, which is a 20 minute light show (Mr. Ariniello thanked Ingersoll Auto for their generous donation to help facilitate this event). The Center is once again partnering with Women Involved in Newtown to gather items for Thanksgiving Baskets for local families in need.

Facility Update:

Mr. Ariniello reported he met with the tile company about the final estimate needed for the locker room upgrade project to fix the water-on-the-floor issues in the locker rooms. This project includes new showerheads, installation of frosted, shatter-proof glass shower doors, and permanent, in-wall shower niches as well as fixing some of the tile impacted by these changes. The cost estimate is ~\$70,000.

“Sip & Shop” December Fundraiser Update

Mr. Ariniello noted Friends of the Newtown Community Center is hosting a Sip & Shop night from 6:30-9:30 with 75 people already registered. Tickets are \$20/pp pre-paid and \$25 at the door. Charcuterie Boards will be offered. There are more than 35 vendors registered.

Volunteer Requests: Sip & Shop and Light Show

Mr. Ariniello shared there is a sign up genius for a Volunteer List. Mr. Tousignant and Ms. Walsh offered to help. The other Commission members will update their availability on the sign up genius.

Discussion and Possible Vote on the 2022 Meeting Schedule

Ms. Walsh shared the 2022 Meeting Schedule

Jeff Tousignant made a motion to approve the Newtown Community Center 2022 Regular Meeting Schedule. Fred Taylor seconded . All in favor and motion passes.

Status Update on New MS and HS Student Representatives

Ms. Walsh noted there are two new students that will be joining as Student Representatives in the New Year with one from the Middle School and one from the High School.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Newtown Allies for Change Mural Placement in Center

Ms. Walsh spoke about the mural that is being donated from the Allies for Change. The Commission discussed the idea. The Commission also noted the need for Allies for Change to be present during the hanging as well as providing the appropriate materials to hang. The question on timeline for the length of hanging was discussed. Mr. Ariniello will reach out to Allies for Change to talk about certain criteria prior to approving this agenda item.

Chair and Co Chair Nominations

Tabled until the December meeting.

Nancy Doniger made a motion to adjourn at 7:41p. Seconded by Cheyanne Wirtz . All in favor and motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kiley Morrison Gottschalk, Clerk

Attachments:

2022 Regular Meeting Schedule
Membership Update
NCC Financials
Director’s Report October 2021

8 SIMPSON STREET
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT 06470



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

2021 Newtown Community Center Committee Meetings

Newtown Community Center

8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT

All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

January 11, 2022

February 15, 2022

March 15, 2022

April 19, 2022

May 17, 2022

June 21, 2022

July 19, 2022

August 16, 2022

September 20, 2022

October 18, 2022

November 15, 2022

December 20, 2022

January 17, 2023

**Newtown Community Center
Membership Count – October 2021**

Membership Category	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct
Annual Adult	22	21	20	22	22	17	19	21	21
Annual Family	68	68	72	69	70	69	74	78	77
Annual Senior Couple	22	22	22	22	21	19	19	20	21
Annual Senior	37	36	40	47	47	42	41	49	46
Annual Single Parent Family	9	11	11	11	11	13	14	15	14
Annual Youth/ Teen	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Monthly Adult	148	149	152	159	173	161	166	177	179
Monthly Family	642	694	702	722	758	775	799	818	825
Monthly Senior Couple	71	76	76	72	79	83	86	91	91
Monthly Senior	258	265	268	266	280	275	285	313	346
Monthly Single Parent Family	101	104	113	116	129	131	134	139	143
Monthly Youth/ Teen	69	61	64	64	70	64	62	70	62
Volunteer First Responders	8	7	9	10	10	14	14	8	8
Volunteer First Responder Family	8	7	16	18	18	18	24	27	27
Employee Membership	6	6	6	8	9	12	12	12	12
College Membership Special	0	0	1	3	7	3	0	0	0
Membership Units	1471	1,529	1,575	1,612	1,707	1,699	1,752	1841	1875
Total Members				4,246	4,527	4,689	4,829	4,856	4,979
Scholarships Awarded				4	3	5	3	7	0

NewtownC Community Center Budget Worksheet

Revenues	FY 2022			Actual YTD	FY 2021 FORECAST				Forecast March-June	Forecast 2022
	Budget	Adjusted	Oct Actuals		November	December	January	February		
FY22 Forecasted										
Federal Grants	0									0
State grants	0	10,000								
rental income	30,000	30,000	3,866	14,935	4,000	4,000	1,000	2,000	10,000	35,000
other grants	0	42,000	24,870	38,370						42,000
charges for programs	88,000	208,000	28,800	178,406	12,000	18,000	15,000	8,000	100,000	153,000
charges for aquatic programs	160,000	185,000	25,084	99,081	3,000	18,000	5,000	15,000	50,000	91,000
membership fees	514,224	530,000	58,285	212,230	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	200,000	530,000
interest on investments	22,000	5,000								5,000
misc rev/special events	15,000	33,000	5,701	5,626	2,500	25,000			3,000	30,500
ncc-childcare	0									
income - cafe	8,000	8,000	482	1,217	375	500	400	600	1,200	3,075
donations	50,000	50,000	15,877	42,832	2,500					50,495
scholarships	0								0	
transfers in	0			2,271						
TOTAL	887,224	1,101,000	162,964	594,968	76,375	114,500	68,900	89,400	364,200	940,070
GE Donation	1,000,000	1,000,000		1,000,000			1,000,000			1,000,000
TOTAL WITH GE DONATION:	1,887,224	2,101,000		1,594,968						1,940,070
Expenses										
FY21 Forecasted	FY 2022			Actual YTD	FY 2021 FORECAST				Forecast March-June	Forecast 2022
	Budget	Adjusted	October		November	December	January	February		
Salaries full time	247,643	263,200	30,443	86,969	20,295	20,295	20,295	18,710	152,128	263,200
salaries part time	264,500	282,000	29,556	86,282	19,000	20,300	20,300	19,000	168,000	282,000
salaries seasonal**	0			0					0	0
salaries childcare**	0		4,160	32,845					0	32,845
group insurance	54,188	60,000	4,529	13,337	4,511	4,511	4,511	4,511	27,066	60,000
iss contributions	39,265	44,000	4,786	16,865	3,600	3,500	3,500	3,500	21,752	44,000
retirement contributions	13,000	13,000	1,636	4,619	931	931	931	931	7,303	13,000
fees & prof services	1,500	1,500								1,500
marketing	4,000	4,000	564	690	450	250	500	650	2,000	3,650
water/sewers	34,000	40,000			10,000			10,000	20,000	40,000
repair & maint services	26,500	26,500		3,383	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	12,000	15,383
copier leasing	4,000	4,000		0					4,000	4,000
contractual services	64,000	79,000	3,640	37,698	10,000	5,000	8,000	5,000	26,032	75,000
dues, travel & education	5,000	5,000		232	100	150	300	250	3,000	5,000
general supplies	10,000	10,000	1,745	2,636	2,000	600	2,500	1,800	2,000	10,000
office supplies	5,750	5,750	37	203	250	150	350	250	4,400	5,750
program/rec supplies	8,500	10,000		3,168	1,000	500	500	500	4,976	10,000
pool supplies	20,000	20,000	218	2,691	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	17,686	20,000
comm events/special events	13,000	15,000		775				15,000	15,000	15,775
childcare/ncc	0								0	0
energy - gas	54,000	54,000	4,742	12,605	5,000	5,000	6,000	6,000	23,406	54,000
electric	90,000	90,000	10,893	32,243	10,000	11,000	10,000	10,000	43,104	90,000
comm cafe	0			47	150	350	250	250	1,000	
equipment	12,850	9,000							9,000	9,000
capital	125,500	125,500							0	125,500
credit card fees	25,000	40,000	2,860	14,452	5,000	4,000	3,500	5,000	17,500	40,000
TOTAL	1,122,196	1,201,450	99,809	351,740	97,287	81,537	86,437	106,352	581,353	1,219,603
Operating Income / (Loss)	(234,972)	(116,450)	539	243,228	(20,912)	32,963	(17,537)	(16,952)	(217,153)	(279,533)

Membership

This month we netted 123 new memberships with the largest increase in our Senior memberships. As the weather continues to get cooler I expect a large increase in traffic and new memberships. At this time, we will continue with reservations for open swim and lap swim but am hoping as more children continue to get vaccinated we can eventually pull back the reservations on open swim.

Fall Programs

Swim Lesson registration for the Late Fall session stands at 210 students in lessons. General Programming stands at 233 participants and our Kids Club afterschool program stands at 133 kids per week (avg. 30 kids/day). Our fall activities were busy and very successful- 75 families attended our pumpkin painting party, 85 children attended our Halloween parade and party and due to inclement weather we were only able to host 225 cars on the first night of the Halloween drive thru.

The late fall session launched some new teen programming. We added a teen pastry program and clay program. The Pastry program has reached its max capacity of 12 participants. We are continuing to investigate new teen programming for the winter session.

Staffing

Last Friday was Kristin Rebelo's last day. We will certainly miss Kristin and all she was done to assist us in developing a successful Aquatics programs. We wish her the best in her future endeavors. We currently have the job posted on the town website, indeed, Connecticut Recreation sites and I have posted in on national aquatic manager sites. Interviews for this position will begin later this week.

Our Marketing manager who worked per diem has stepped aside to head back to school and work full time. I am currently in the process of soliciting a graphic designer to assist us with per diem work.

We currently still have needs for swim instructors

Project updates

Recently, we have received a generous donation for a swim suit spinner in the Men's Locker-room. We will be using capital funds to purchase the same spinner in the women's locker room. We are also very grateful for a donation to add more grab bars into the showers in all of our locker rooms to accommodate more handicapped individuals. We are so grateful for these recent donations and will look to have these projects completed by the New Year. We have solidified 2/3 of our contractors for the Locker Room upgrades. We are awaiting a final bid on tiling of the showers but, are looking at completing the Locker room upgrades at around \$70K. An increase in senior memberships have led to an increase in the need for handicap parking. I am looking to add two additional part time handicap spots. We are also investigating the cost of electric push buttons on the Locker Room doors.

Upcoming Events

We are once again partnering with the Women Involved in Newtown to gather food items for Thanksgiving baskets for local families in need. The annual giving tree to support social services and the Newtown Fund.

Our 2nd Annual Holiday Light Show will be hosted from December 10th-December 12th. Tickets are now on sale and 350 tickets have been sold to date. Volunteer shifts are available on sign up genius (link in email).

On December 3rd, the friends of the NCC are hosting their first fundraiser from 6:30-9:30pm. Tickets are \$20.00 and available at the link below. The event will host over 30 vendors and 15 wine and beer vendors.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/newtown-community-center-1st-annual-sip-n-shop-event-tickets-200986916277>